

## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-15 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-15 have been rejected by the Examiner. Claims 1, 3, 13 and 14 have been amended. Claim 2 has been cancelled. The Applicant submits that claims 1 and 3-15 are in condition for allowance and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections. No new matter has been entered.

The amended claims relate to an improved safety device for a surgical device trigger. The design appears from either side to be a button that is depressible. When the button is depressed from either side, a member associated with the button slides inwardly to disengage the trigger.

The cited art relates more generally to safety devices for a surgical device trigger. The Hillstead reference (US 6,830,174) teaches a paddle like device that pivots forward to disassociate a pointed portion 272 from a hole 174 in the trigger. This reference does not teach a button device that slides from one side of the device to the other to disengage the trigger.

The Nobis reference (US 5,137,198) teaches a similar pivoting member, which member physically blocks the path between the trigger and the back of the handle. Only by pivoting the block away can the trigger be pulled. As with the Hillstead reference, this reference does not teach a button device that slides from one side of the device to the other to disengage the trigger.

Reconsideration and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested. It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. It is submitted that the foregoing amendments and remarks should render the case in condition for allowance.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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